

MARVEL

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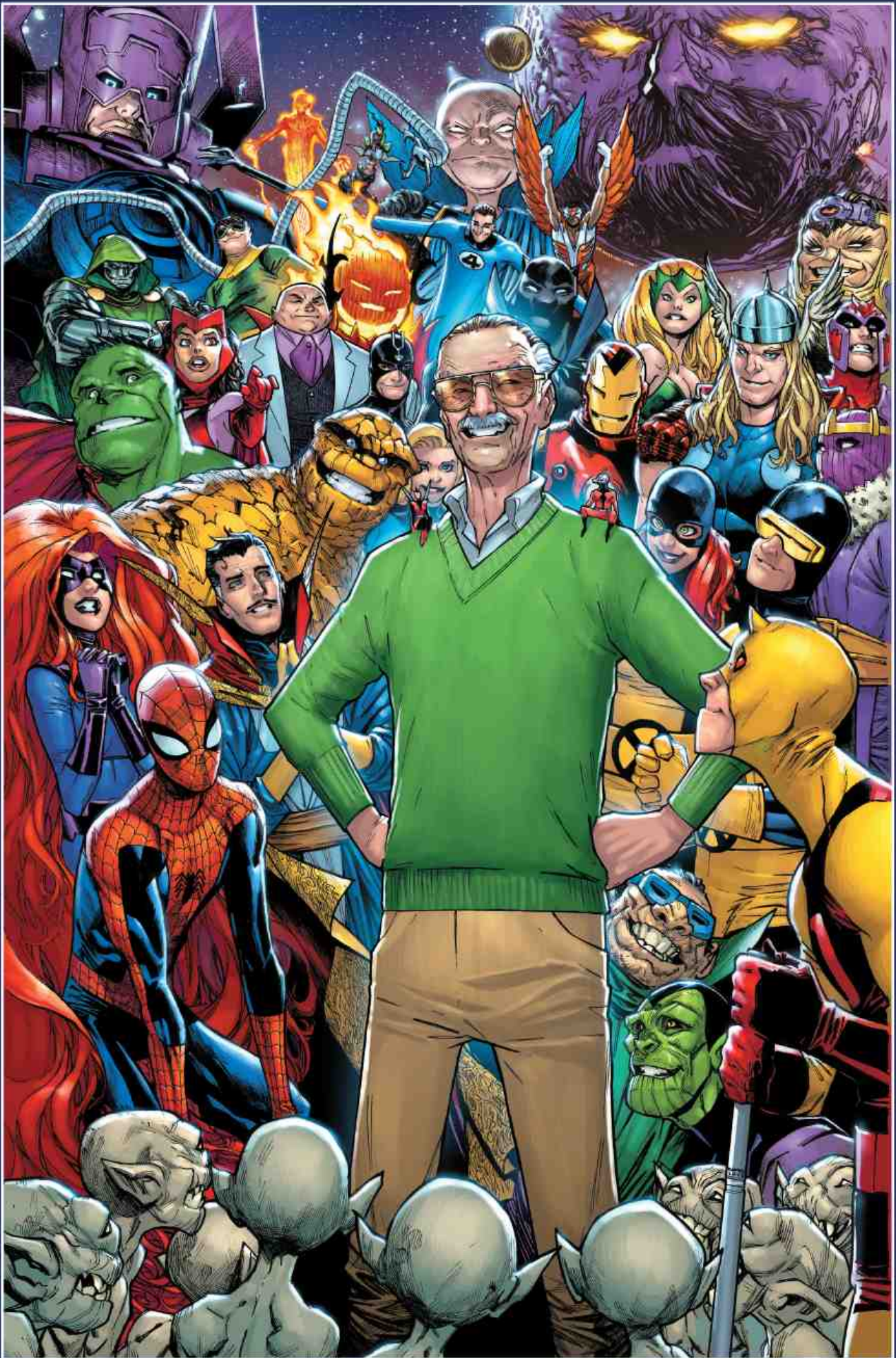
DUGGAN
REIS

DARKWEB

X
MEN



100 YEARS AND STILL INSPIRING US ALL



WE LOVE YOU, STAN!



[darkweb...[0.1]
[x_men.....[0.1]

“The holidays are magic, and that’s
bad news this year.”

-- J. JONAH JAMESON

[darkweb...[0.1]
[x_men.....[0.1]



[darkweb_xmen_01]



"Okay, so you know how I was kidnapped by the demon Belasco as a child...

...and taken to Limbo and a lot of stuff happened and my mutant power kicked in and I learned some spells...

"...ended up fighting Belasco and his goons and winning--like I always do--and then, you know, when you break it..."

"...you buy it. Anyway, I ruled Limbo, and it was cool for a while, but even ruling demons gets old.

"So I let Maddie Pryor take over Limbo. I made sure she knew what she was getting into and made her promise not to attack Krakoa."





DOCTOR

DARK WEB X-MEN

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Madelyne Pryor is the clone of Jean Grey, A.K.A. Marvel Girl of the X-Men. Her fixation on Jean, troubled romantic history with both Summers brothers and contentious status as a clone has strained her relationship with the rest of mutantkind and Krakoa. Recognizing that Madelyne could not call Krakoa home, Magik installed her as the new Queen of Limbo and its demons.

But Madelyne's journey to healing isn't through yet--not now that Ben Reilly, clone of Peter Parker, A.K.A. Spider-Man, encouraged her to take their harbored resentments and unleashed all hell onto New York City, ensnaring the city and all its inhabitants into their Dark Web.



[JEAN GREY]



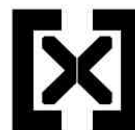
[MAGIK]



[FIRESTAR]



[FORGE]



[CYCLOPS]



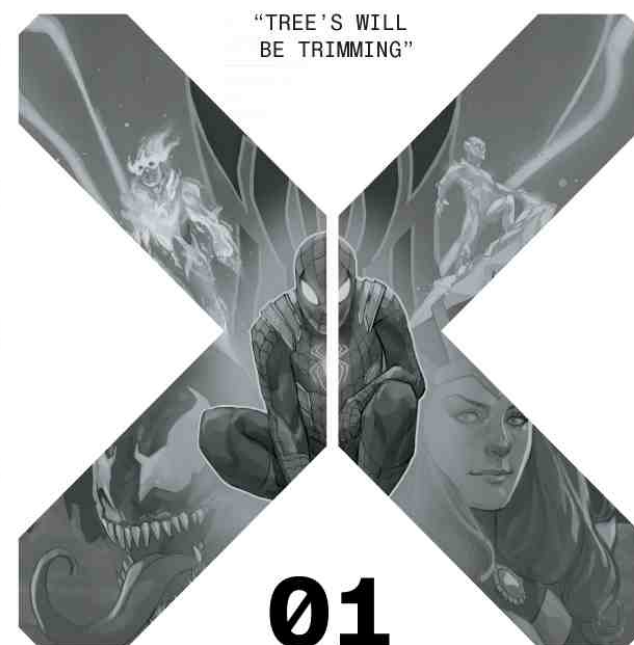
[HAVOK]



[ICEMAN]



[SPIDER-MAN]



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Stan Lee & Jack Kirby

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What's the plan here? We're just on defense?

No, we'll have an offense too. But that means--

--going to Limbo. Magik?

Okay, one stepping disk coming up.



Iceman, Firestar, don't let New York go to hell. Not during the holidays.

Let's grab Havok on the way, he's down the street fighting a bunch of angry shopping carts.

Everybody else--have fun!



New York would be a nice city if they ever finished building it. Construction sites make deadly allies for the limbo demons.

NOM NOM!

Hey, I dunno what you are, but this is a union job!





The holidays are fragile.

They can be ruined by a careless utterance of a family secret.

Or a drunk uncle.



But nothing ruins the holidays like a demon from Limbo relieving itself in a famous landmark Christmas tree...and infecting it with dark magic.



Did that thing just make a boom-boom in the tree?

Ew, gross! This city sucks!



Something's happening!



He-he...



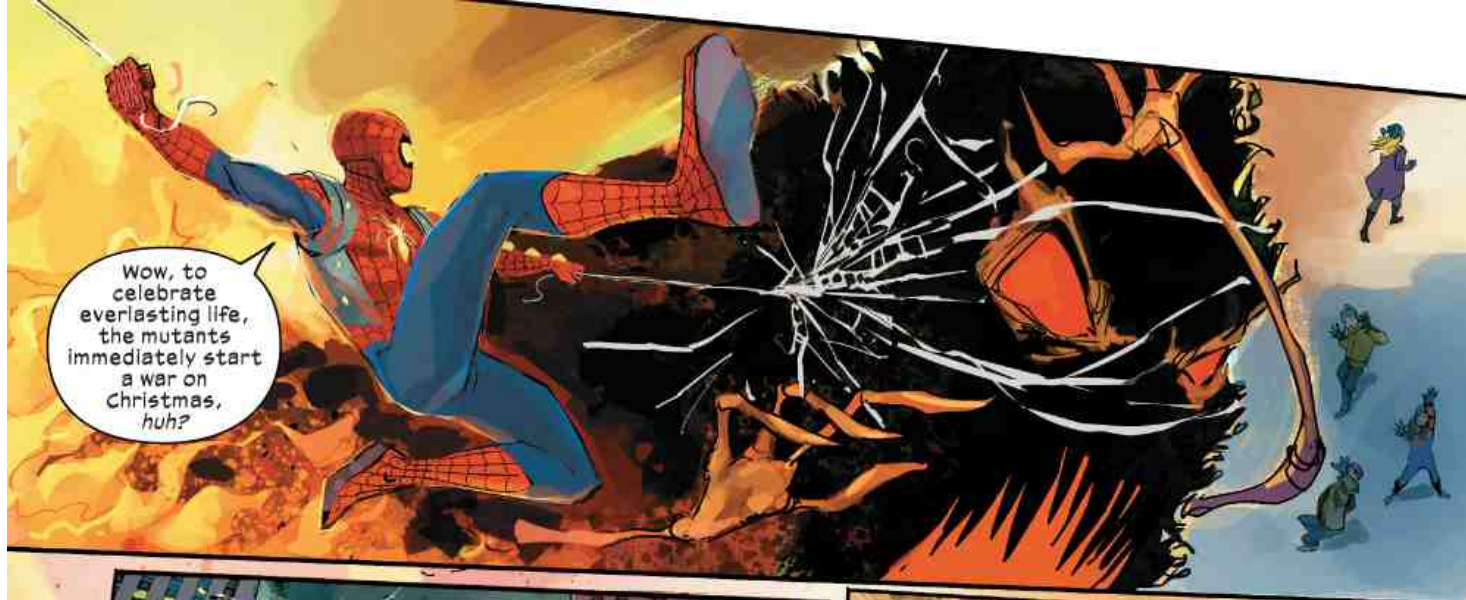
Ho-ho...



...ho-ho-holy \$%#@, time to die!







Wow, to celebrate everlasting life, the mutants immediately start a war on Christmas, huh?



No wonder Orchis doesn't like you folks.



Help!



Hang on, sir! We're coming!

Let's see if we can somehow beat the tree up but put it back in place?

Agreed. I like the way you swing, Spidey.



Gotcha!



I'll make sure nobody tumbles out of there.

So, Spidey, thanks for clocking in on this one.



No biggie, I clocked in the last time one of yours turned the city into demonic shenanigans, too.

Who's fault is it anyway?



It's a sad case, actually. We think it's an old clone of Jean's that is sad, and--

Woof! Say no more. I got my own clone issues. Always makes the holidays more difficult.



Tree hates you!

That's why every year I write the Mayor's office and beg for the city to get a "Charlie Brown" Christmas tree, in case it ever steals Frosty's bit and comes to life.

Ughn... I hope the others are having more fun in Limbo.



At that moment,
in Limbo.

I wanted to
bring us in far enough
away from her place so that
we could try to sneak
up on her.

Guys, if
Maddie is in trouble,
or we're gonna get
her in trouble, I'd like
the chance to go in
first and talk
to her.



Unfortunately,
that small mountain
hurtling toward us
means that she knows
we're here.



I don't
like when
people throw
rocks at
me.

I'm not a
fan either. One
gave me brain
damage when we
were kids.



Should
I blast
it?

No. Don't
worry, I'll
catch it.





But this is...
yawn...just a
diversion.



I sense
a strange
presence.



Oh
no---sleep
demons!

I'm
teleporting
us out!



Sleep!



Nighty-
night, ha
ha ha!



Up
high!

Back in New York, the naughty tree was pulling decorations off nearby buildings.

WOOF!

I'm changing web-cartridges-- can one of you save that dog?



C'mere, girl.

Guys, I hate to say this, but I think we gotta take the gloves off. I know we wanted to save Christmas, but maybe we're better off just writing this one off?

Fine.

I'll take away its mobility, and--whoopsie. Must have been all that plastic it ate.

BLARG!



Iceman had terraformed the poles of Arakko and defeated the Frost Giants at their home in Niffliheim...freezing a horrid tree solid was child's play compared to those feats.

In fact, so solid was the flash-frozen tree that it would not thaw until March of next year.

Booooo

Oooooo!



Are people booing us?

Hey, you people can't boo us.

Besides, you love when Tim Burton does stuff like this, but not us?

I saw it eat Santa.

We all saw it, kid. Don't worry though--he's a mutant and the X-Men are gonna resurrect him in their Keebler Treehouse.



Okay. Well, that happened. We should definitely not team up ever again. Very uncomplimentary power set.

Peter-- hzzzz-- he's back-- need help--

Norman?! **NORMAN!!!**



Bye, X-Men, good luck with this. Take it from me--don't get cloned, and that's one to grow on, my amazing friends!



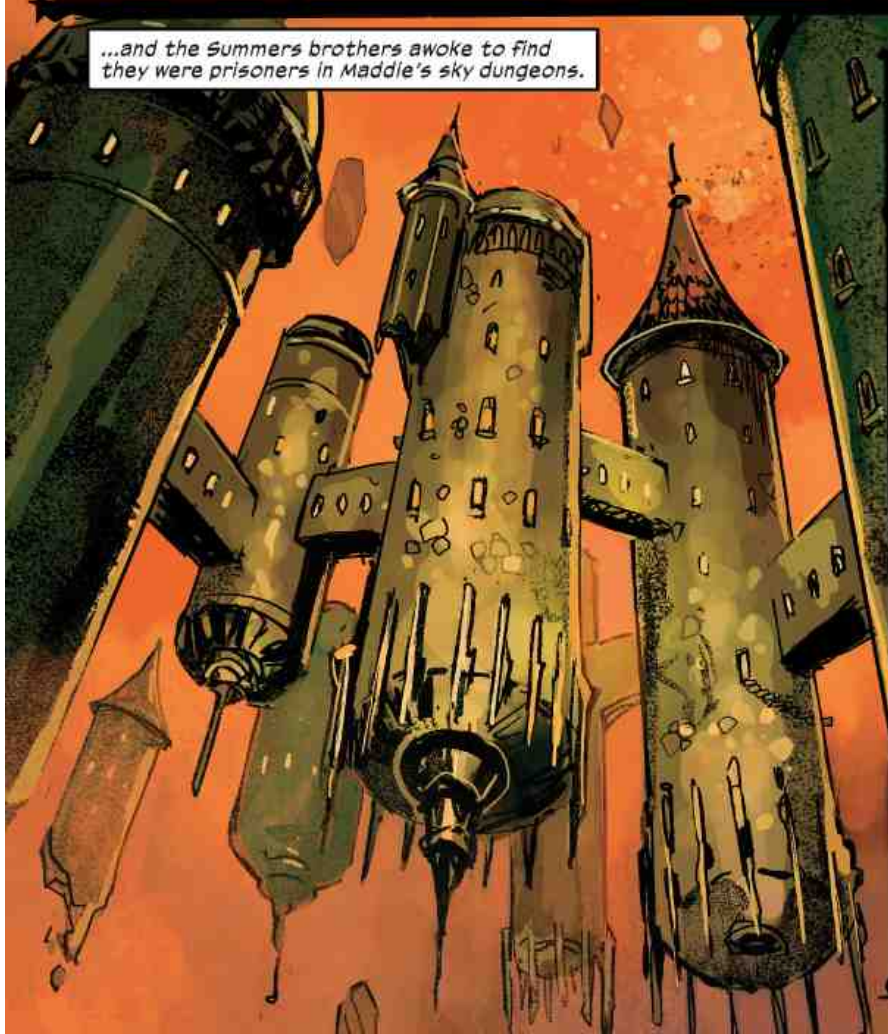
The Goblin Queen's seat of power in Limbo.
The X-Men walked right into her trap...



...Jean and Magik
were stuck in a
powerful spell...



...and the Summers brothers awoke to find
they were prisoners in Maddie's sky dungeons.

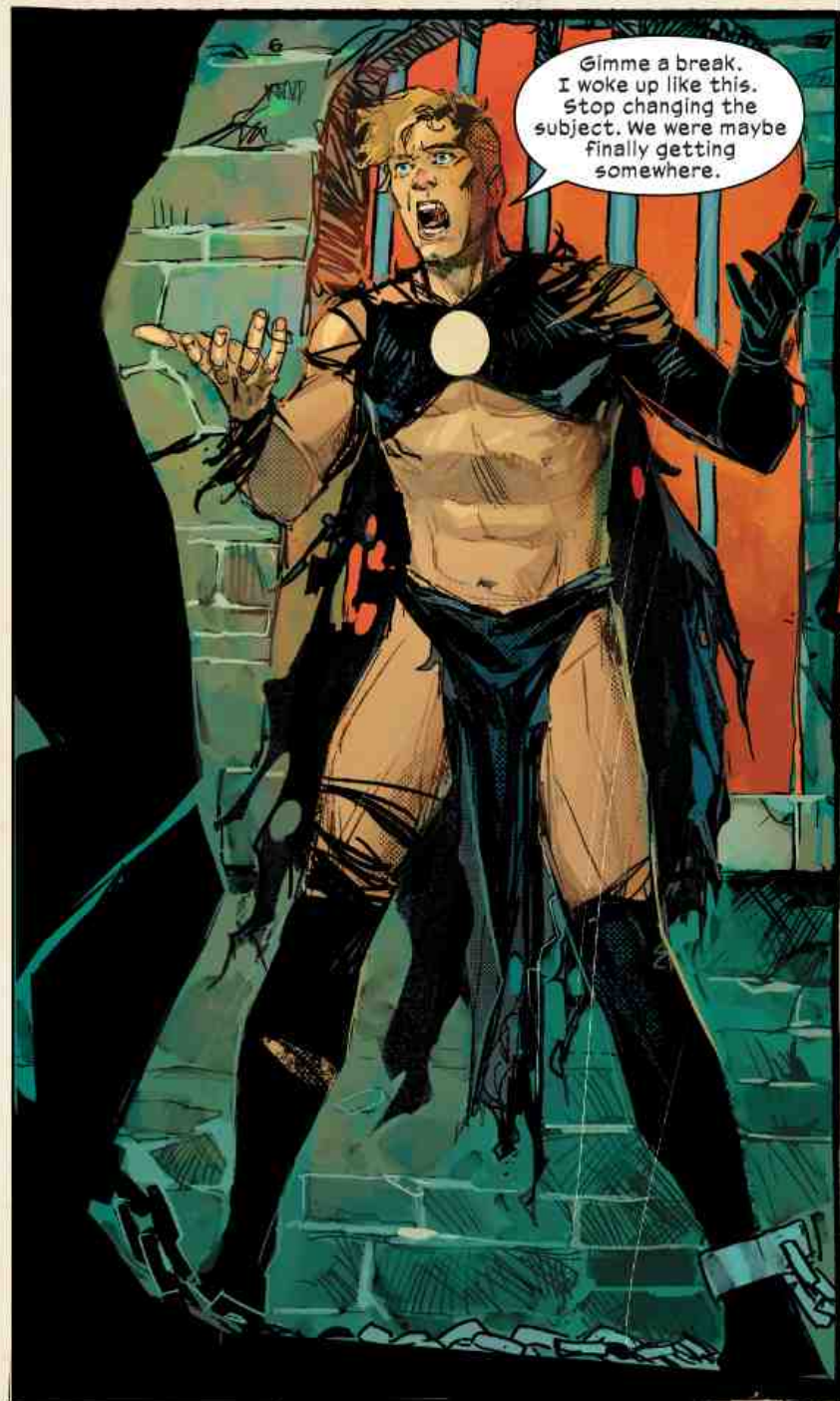


Every time
I have sympathy
for Maddie, she
goes off and does
something like
this.

You don't
know what it's
like. To not be the
one leading the charge.
To be left behind...to be
used up, chewed up and
spit out. I think that's
why I understand
her. We're the
same.

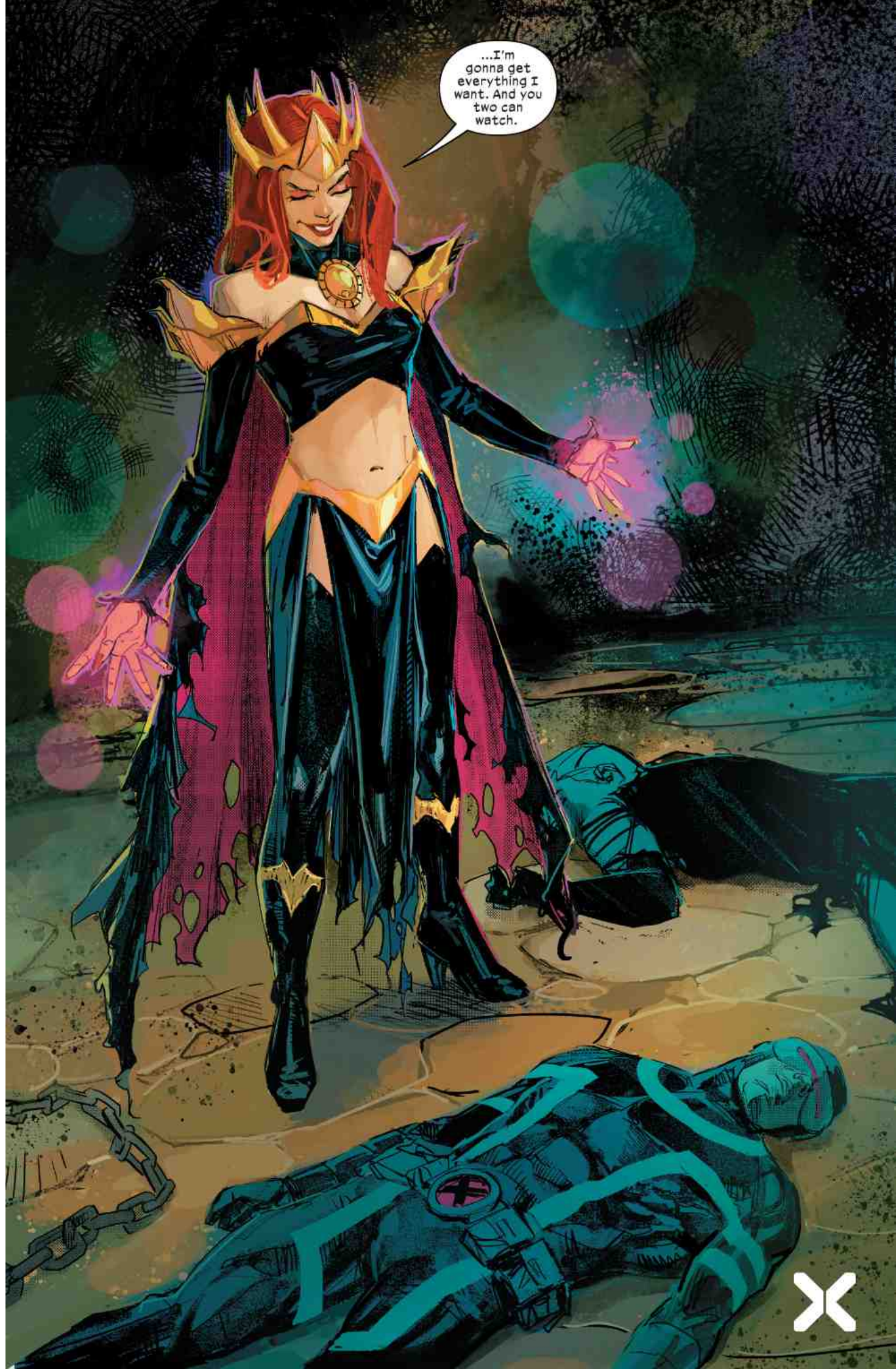
Wait...
what are you
wearing?!

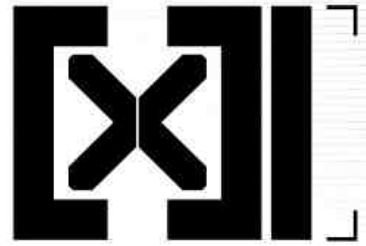






...I'm gonna get everything I want. And you two can watch.





THE X OF GIFTS

The X-Men's white elephant gift exchange.

The parameters:

Gifts should be less than fifty U.S. dollars if purchased, but making the gift was encouraged.

Gifts could only be stolen once per round.

Numbers were selected telepathically and the gift-selecting order was determined:

Jean Grey, Synch, Havok, Forge, Firestar, Magik, Iceman and then Cyclops.

After a few rounds of thievery and at least one accusation of telepathic shenanigans, this is how it all sorted:

Jean Grey went home with Synch's gift, a limited-edition single-cask whiskey from Japan. It will be opened and shared on New Year's Eve.

When the fun ended, **Synch** was holding onto a really interesting art piece made of carbon and diamonds. It's in his window at the Treehouse. When the light shines through, it looks like a nebula. Firestar created it by using her mutant gift at full power along the edge of a volcano. Everyone agreed it was the coolest gift, and it was stolen the most times.

Havok didn't love the look of his teammates' choices and finagled to get his own gift of a year-round "Coffees of the World" gift delivery.

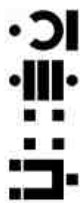
Forge took home a knock-off hoodie sold by the street vendors outside the Treehouse. It has Iceman's handsome face on it, and you only get one guess as to who gifted it.

Firestar ended up with Forge's gift. A living clock that displayed the full date that was made with nothing more than flowers from Krakoa. A truly one-of-a-kind item.

Magik received Jean Grey's gift, a lovely bit of asteroid plucked from high orbit around our planet. Jean noticed it while saving the world when the Eternals attacked.

Iceman left the White Elephant with a wrapped Teddy Bear that was obviously the handiwork of Magik, but the surprise when it was unwrapped was the discovery that it had the old mummified heart of a rhyming demon formerly of Limbo. Iceman is not quite sure where the appropriate place to keep it is.

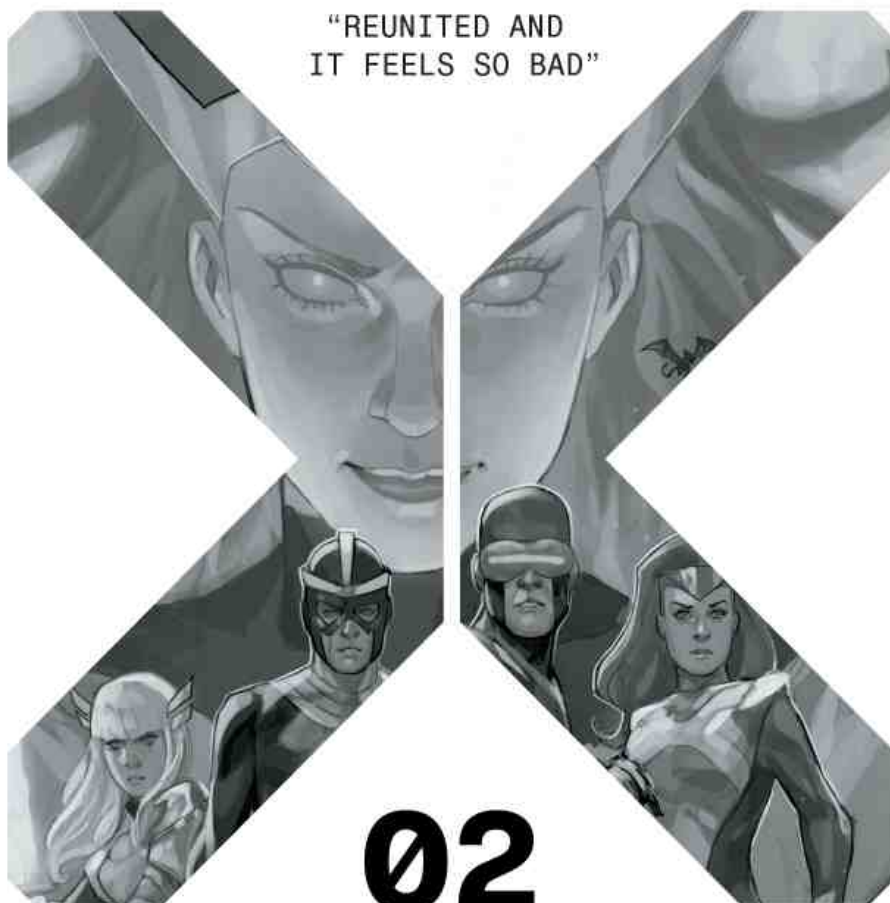
Cyclops was happy to end up with his own gift, a BAND OF BROTHERS 4K set of Blu-ray discs autographed by Tom Hanks.



NEXT

DARKWEB

"REUNITED AND
IT FEELS SO BAD"



02

ISSUE:

Dark Web #1 [Dusk]

Amazing Spider-Man #15

➤ Dark Web: X-Men #1

Mary Jane & Black Cat #1

Dark Web: Ms. Marvel #1

Gold Goblin #2

Amazing Spider-Man #16

Venom #14

Dark Web: X-Men #2

Gold Goblin #3

Amazing Spider-Man #17

Dark Web: Ms. Marvel #2

